

GAU 171 ✓
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of)
)

TARO OGAWA, YASUMASA SENOO,)
YASUYUKI TODA,)
MITSUO KATAYAMA and)
TAKAHIRO HARA)

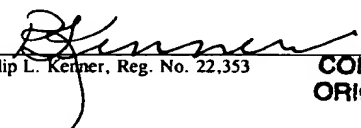
Serial No. 09/857,892)

Filed: June 11, 2001)

For: PADDED BODY)

#5
ALH
81402
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of this Information Disclosure Statement was deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, this 17th day of July, 2002.


Phillip L. Kenner, Reg. No. 22,353

COPY OF PAPERS
ORIGINALLY FILED

Attorney Docket No. TAK.P.US0029



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97 encouraging the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants submit the following in compliance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 CFR §1.56. This enclosed art was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. The fee specified in 37 CFR §1.17(p) is enclosed herewith.

Information or art known to the Applicants and having an extent of relevance to the present application has been listed on PTO Form 1449 attached hereto. It consists of one (1) United States patent and four (4) foreign patents. The attached references are cited in the "International Search Report" for the PCT application on which this application is based. The subject International Search Report and the references were submitted at the time of the filing of this application. Applicants have employed PTO Form 1449 for the purpose of convenience of the Office and the Examiner and to insure that the references are considered and appear on the face of the patent issuing on this application.


No representation is made that a search has been made, that the information is pertinent to the claimed subject matter, or that the information represents the only or the best information. The Applicants do not admit that any of the information they have provided is necessarily prior to their invention but rather that it is information of which they

RECEIVED
JUL 25 2002
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1000

are aware and which they believe possibly should be provided to the Office in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure.

It is submitted that none of the art provided herein achieves the objects and advantages of the present invention. Applicants believe that the claims of the subject application are patentably distinguishable over the art submitted herewith. The consideration of these documents in conjunction with the prosecution of this application is requested as contemplated by the rules hereinabove referenced.

Respectfully submitted,



Phillip L. Kenner, Reg. No. 22,353
RENNER, KENNER, GREIVE, BOBAK,
TAYLOR & WEBER
First National Tower, Fourth Floor
Akron, OH 44308-1456
Telephone: (330) 376-1242
Attorneys for Applicants

Date: July 17, 2002